

Ryan Receives New Navy Contract for Firebee

\$6,250,000 Award Goes to Expanding Torrance Plant

A new \$6,250,000 contract for advanced model KDA-4 Firebee jet drone missiles has been awarded by the Navy to the Ryan Aeronautical Company, T. Claude Ryan, president, announced yesterday. Additional funds allocated by the Navy for KDA-4 spare parts will boost the total value of this contract to over \$8 million.

The new contract will extend Firebee production well into the latter part of 1959 and will be phased in with Ryan's present volume production of KDA-1 Firebee target drones for the Navy and Q-2A models for the Air Force.

Fabrication of Firebee parts is done at Ryan's main plant in San Diego, with final assembly being accomplished at the company's new factory at Torrance which is now being enlarged. An additional 600 employees will be hired when the expansion is completed this summer.

At an increasing number of military bases, Firebees are regularly flying high-speed, high-altitude missions of an hour or more duration. These wingless jet target planes are capable of 600 m.p.h. speeds and altitudes up to 50,000 feet. Air-launched, and recoverable by parachute, they are used for training crews operating the air-to-air and ground-to-air missiles of the nation's air defense system.

TARGETS

Ryan Firebees are also widely used in connection with the development of new weapon systems; in their testing and evaluation phases, plus the crew training and proficiency phases, because of their realistic simulation of "enemy" targets. They have the maneuverability and high performance of modern jet aircraft and the endurance "on station" over the gunnery range which permits a firing exercise to be completed.

Development of even more advanced versions of the Firebee for both the Air Force and Navy, and of specialized auxiliary equipment, is proceeding.

\$21 Million Contract To Hughes

Hughes Aircraft Company has been awarded a \$21,188,717 contract by the U. S. Air Force for the additional production of airborne control and weapons systems for advanced all-weather jet interceptors, Roy E. Wendahl, vice president and manager, airborne systems, announced here this week.

This increases total contract expenditures for this particular weapons system to more than \$120,000,000.

The systems, already in production at Hughes' El Segundo plant, will fly supersonic jets from "take off to touchdown," leaving the pilot free to make vital tactical decisions in aerial combat.

In addition to locating a target and directing the interceptor on a course best calculated to intercept it, the new system automatically fires armament such as the Hughes Falcon air-to-air guided missile with either radar or infra red guidance.

A major advance is the incorporation of "Digitair"—first airborne digital computer in production—in the new system. The computer, small enough to fit into the cabinet of a 21-inch table model television set, can make 9600 basic arithmetical computations in one second and render 6250 decisions in one minute.

The contract was awarded Hughes by the Air Force's Air Materiel Command.

along with present production on current models, Ryan engineers are working on "missile compatibility" programs to broaden the Firebee's usefulness with missile systems and to extend its capabilities to keep pace with the stepped up performance of new weapons.

Drunk Driver Rams Car Into Riviera Home

A 27-year old Hawthorne driver who told police that he realized "something happened" was arrested for drunk driving and leaving the scene of an accident after he rammed his car into a Hollywood Riviera house.

James Bowley, of Hawthorne, was found sitting dazedly in his car a few blocks from the house at 4733 Paseo de Las Tortugas that his car had struck Sunday night. The house, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Albert W. Hinz, was damaged slightly.

Bowley, according to police came roaring down the hill on Paseo de Las Tortugas at about 70 miles an hour, failed to make the turn at the intersection with Calle de Arboles, and rammed into the bedroom of the Hinz home.

The car struck a corner of the house, about five feet away from the bed in which a child was sleeping, Hinz said.

Hinz, and some of his neighbors, ran into the street and tried to stop the car as it backed away from the house and went careening down Calle de Arboles. Police traced the path of the car and arrested Bowley in front of 3509 Paseo de Pablo.

The car's front end was badly damaged, the front wheels spread apart and a front tire torn to shreds.

Arrested with Bowley, who told police he had had "about two gallons of beer" before attempting to drive to his home, was Marion L. Baldwin, 34, of Gardena. Bowley said he thought "something happened" when the car didn't make the turn into Calle de Arboles.

Horlander Heads Junior Chamber Drive For New Members

Douglas J. "Dutch" Horlander was selected, at a special meeting in the Armory, to head the important "Membership Drive" committee. Fred Hansen was named "Orientation" Chairman at the meeting.

An organization of young men ages 21 through 35, the Junior Chamber was formed for the purpose of providing them with opportunities for self improvement, participation in projects of civic improvement, and association with other active young men.

Among the past activities of the Torrance local were an airlift of 20 tons of supplies to the Northern California flooded areas, Voice of Democracy speech contest for high school students, Torrance War Memorial Monument, sponsorship of the "All America" award, Torrance annual community fair, and traffic safety.

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ARREST EX-EMPLOYEE FOR THEFT OF 600-POUND SAFE

\$435 In Safe Untouched

A disgruntled former employee who sought to even the score with Herman Miller, Torrance Plymouth dealer, by stealing a 600-pound safe had more to complain about today.

The ex-employee, Oscar Jesse Coates, 37, of 2249 E. 119 st., Los Angeles, was arrested by Los Angeles police

less than two hours after he and a companion hoisted the 600-pound safe into the trunk of their car and drove off Tuesday night.

Coates was seen emerging from the auto dealer's garage by Robert H. Wilshire, of 17575 Yukon ave., who noted the license number on the getaway car and phoned police.

Detective Myles Hamilton, after determining that the car was registered in Coates' name, notified Los Angeles police. An hour later Coates and his companion, Thomas P. Martin, 33, of Los Angeles, were stopped by police at Broadway and 67 st.

The safe, which contained \$435 in cash and an undetermined amount in checks, was unopened.

ADMITS THEFT

Coates admitted backing his car up next to the garage doors in the alley to the rear of the auto dealers showroom, and then climbing through a broken window into the garage. He rolled the heavy safe to the door, he said, and tipped it over into the trunk.

"I used to work for that company and got acid in my eye," he told police. "They didn't pay me a damn thing." He said he had obtained another job but had been laid off Tuesday.

"I was three payments behind in my car," he explained to police. He intended to take the safe to a friends house, get a sledge hammer and "knock it open," he added. He was on his way to his friend when he was stopped by police.

Willett Named Presiding Judge of South Bay Court

Judge Otto B. Willett was elected presiding judge of the South Bay Municipal Court, at a meeting of court judges last week.

Judge Willett, born in Effingham, Illinois in 1912, attended the University of Illinois where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in Journalism. He received his LL.B. from USC and was admitted to practice in 1936.

Judge Willett was City Attorney and City Judge of Torrance prior to his election to the South Bay Municipal Court in 1952.

Receive Low Bid on Drain in Waltheria

An apparent low bid of \$179,023.75 for construction of the Waltheria Sump Storm Drain, Torrance, was submitted by the Zarubica Construction company of El Monte, Supervisor Burton W. Chace said this week.

Bids were opened at the headquarters of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, with a total of 21 bids received.

Following a review of the proposals by district engineers, a recommendation for award of the contract will be made to the Board of Supervisors, Chace said. Work is slated to get under way within 15 days after the board gives the go ahead, with about seven months required to complete the drain.

Chace said the drain will join the Lomita Boulevard Storm Drain, already completed, at the intersection of 247th street and Crenshaw boulevard. Plans call for the drain to be essentially concrete pipe, 54 inches in diameter, Chace said.

Financing was provided in the 1952 Storm Drain bond issue which called for the construction of 140 drains in the county at an overall cost of \$179,000,000.

The entire drain lies within the city limits of Torrance and was designed by City Engineer Ronald W. Bishop. Construction and maintenance will be supervised by the Flood Control District, Chace added.

Hunt Assigned to Armored Infantry

Army Pvt. Jerry R. Hunt, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ruben L. Hunt, 2139 S. Hobart Blvd., recently was assigned to Company C of the 373rd Armored Infantry Battalion in Wildflecken, Germany.

Hunt entered the Army last March and completed basic training at Fort Bragg, N. C. While a civilian, he attended Torrance High school and worked for the Oscar Maples Ford company.

DECLARE DIVIDEND

California Bank's board of directors has declared the regular quarterly dividend of 50 cents per share payable February 3 to shareholders of record at the close of business January 17.

Name O. R. Trueblood Chamber President

Furniture executive, O. R. Trueblood, was elected President of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, it was announced today.

Trueblood a native of Dodge, Nebraska has held the position as manager of the McMahan's Furniture Store in Torrance for over five years and was associated with Western Auto for 25 years.

The new Chamber leader is a past vice-president of both the Torrance Chamber and its Downtown Retail Merchants Division. He is a Director of the Harbor Area Employers Council and has served as a Chamber Director for three years.

Trueblood will be installed at the Chambers' Annual Banquet to be held on February 25 at the Civic Auditorium and will replace A. E. Thompson, Manager of General Petroleum's Tor-

rance Refinery. He and his wife, Selma, live at 1629 Anapola, Torrance.



O. R. TRUEBLOOD



WRECKAGE of a corner of her home, struck by a car Sunday night, is pointed out by Mrs. Albert W. Hinz, of 4733 Paseo de Las Tortugas. A car, driven by James R. Bowley, 27, of Hawthorne, came down the hill in front of the Hinz residence at about 70 miles an hour, according to witnesses, and plowed into the Hinz bedroom. A sleeping child was a few feet away from the spot struck by the car. Bowley then backed his car

away, and careened around Hollywood Riviera streets until police caught up with him on Paseo de Pablo. They arrested him for drunk driving. After the accident, residents of the area renewed their campaign for a stop sign at the intersection above the Hinz home. Five accidents have occurred at the intersection recently.

Council Approves Larger Library for South Torrance

Approval of a large library to serve residents of the entire South Torrance area was granted by the city council Tuesday night after several hundred residents of Hollywood Riviera and southern portions of the city turned up at the council meeting.

The turnout, the largest in council chambers in years, brought about the reversal of an earlier council decision to build a smaller library on an El Retiro Park site.

Led by William Hanson, of 327 Paseo de Gracia, a member of the Torrance Library Board, the residents of the area maintained that the money available

to build a promised library could be utilized to construct a larger structure.

"We don't want more money from the city," another speaker, Mrs. Kenneth Watts, of 145 Monte de Oro, told the council. "We want to get the most out of our money."

The library planned for the El Retiro site by Architect Marion Varner contained only 1500 square feet of space, enough to hold 7255 books. A 3000 square foot structure that residents of the area estimated could be built with the \$31,000 available would permit shelf space for 13,800 volumes.

Hanson told the council that the city's entire library facilities needed improvement. He said Torrance has the lowest book-per-capita in the county. "Torrance libraries have one-quarter of a book per person," he said.

Council members agreed that library facilities were inadequate, but could not agree on the disposition of the money to build new structures. Councilman Nickolas Drale insisted that part of the money go to build a small library in West Torrance. He suggested that the city withhold building the South Torrance branch for another six months, accumulate \$8000 in additional unspent, but budgeted, operating funds, and split the money. This would enable construction of two \$20,000 buildings.

The crowd, and its spokesmen, turned down the proposal. "We don't want to get involved in any intractable rivalry," Mrs. Watts told Drale. "We do not feel privileged, we realize we need libraries all over the city. But we are supposed to get a library in South Torrance, and we don't want to get one that will be inadequate before we even start."

Mayor Albert Isen supported the pleas of the South Torrance residents. "We have to ask the patience of people in all the other areas. We're going to enlarge the North Torrance and Waltheria facilities and bring them up to standards that we have to establish in our library system. If we spread the

money around, we'll delay any kind of program for at least three years and no one will be getting anything."

The motion, by Councilman Robert Jahn, to construct as many square feet of a building as could be purchased with the available funds, was adopted by a four to one vote, with Drale opposing it.

North American Appoints 3 to Purchasing Jobs

Three top Purchasing appointments have been made in the Los Angeles Division of North American Aviation, Inc. Don Peitzke, Director of Material, announced.

Because of the great scope of the Weapon System 110 strategic bomber and WS-202 long range interceptor programs, two new positions have been established, Peitzke said.

Frank Weikel has been named Manager of Subcontracts and Subsystems for the WS-110 and William May to a similar position for the WS-202. Phil Prescott has been appointed Purchasing Agent, replacing Ken Pettersen who will assume other duties.

Wins Fifth Place in Speech Contest

Carolyn Lunden, a sophomore at North High school, went into the finals in the University of Southern California Invitational Tournament, January 11.

Miss Lunden competed in impromptu speaking against sixty students and took fifth place. She was the only sophomore to pass the preliminary rounds. Other North High students participating included: Juniors, Bruce Harle and Kathy Schade; Sophomores Linda Harris, Rickie Baumgarten, Rose Marie Simmons, Nancy Chanda and Murlene Scott.

The group was accompanied by Mrs. Lavona Dunworth and Mr. L. R. Mushrush.

Four Churches Plan to Observe YMCA Sunday

W. E. Bowen, Chairman of the Torrance YMCA's Christian Emphasis Committee, announced plans today for the local celebration of YMCA Sunday. Churches across the nation will feature youth, their problems, and their future.

Some 5,000 churches will recognize the YMCA's efforts to build muscle in the character of youth, as well as to provide recreation, camps, clubs, and athletics.

Bowen stated that four churches locally have already planned to observe this day. They are: Hope Evangelical United Brethren; Lutheran Church of the Resurrection; First Christian Church; and, South Bay Church of God.

Bowen said that many more

churches will celebrate the day on either January 19 or 26. He pointed out that the local YMCA has taken great strides in adding a strong religious program to the majority of their 68 youth groups meeting regularly.

Bowen said that YMCA Sunday marks the beginning of YMCA Week which denotes the 114th birthday of the Young Men's Christian Association.

The second celebration of YMCA Week will occur Monday evening, January 20, when the Torrance YMCA holds its annual Kick-off Banquet at the Civic Auditorium. Col. Dean Hess will be the main speaker, and all citizens are cordially invited to attend.



MARCH OF DIMES campaign in Torrance is opened by Postmaster Clara Connors who displays the collection canisters and posters that will go on display in stores, banks and post offices in the area. The drive will be culmi-

nated by a Mothers' March toward the end of the month. Mrs. Connors declared the money is needed to provide therapeutic treatment for the thousands of polio victims in the nation.